

E630 Enhanced Carrier Route Rates

Summary

E630 describes the eligibility standards for Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail mailings.

1.0 BASIC STANDARDS

General

All pieces in an Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail mailing (letters, flats, or, if merchandise samples distributed with detached address labels, irregular parcels) must:

- a. Meet the basic standards for Standard Mail in E610.
- b. Be part of a single mailing of at least 200 pieces or 50 pounds of pieces of Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail. *Exception:* Automation basic carrier route rate pieces are subject to a separate 200-piece or 50-pound minimum volume standard and may not be included in the same mailing as other Enhanced Carrier Route mail. Regular and Nonprofit mailings must meet separate minimum volumes.
- c. Be sorted to carrier routes, marked, and documented under M045 (if palletized), M620 or, for flat-size mail only, under M920, M930, or M940.

Maximum Size

Enhanced Carrier Route rate mail may not be more than 11-3/4 inches high, 14 inches long, or 3/4 inch thick. *Exception:* Merchandise samples with detached address labels may exceed these dimensions if the labels meet the standards in A060.

Preparation

Preparation to qualify for any of the Enhanced Carrier Route rates is optional and need not be performed for all carrier routes in a 5-digit area. An Enhanced Carrier Route mailing may include pieces at basic, high density, and saturation Enhanced Carrier Route rates. Automation basic carrier route rate pieces must be prepared as a separate mailing, subject to the eligibility standards in E640.

Carrier Route Information

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Except for mailings prepared with a simplified address under A040, carrier route codes must be applied to mailings using CASS-certified software and the current USPS Carrier Route File scheme, hard copy Carrier Route Files, or another AIS product containing carrier route information, subject to A930 and A950. Carrier route information must be updated within 90 days before the mailing date.

Sequencing

Basic carrier route rate mail must be prepared either in carrier walk sequence or in line-of-travel (LOT) sequence according to LOT schemes prescribed by the USPS (see M050). High density and saturation rate mailings must be prepared in carrier walk sequence according to schemes prescribed by the USPS.

Addressing

Saturation rate mail may be prepared with detached address labels, subject to A060, or with an alternative addressing format, subject to A040. High density pieces must have a complete delivery address or an address in occupant or exceptional format. Saturation pieces addressed for delivery on a city route must have a complete delivery address or an address in occupant or exceptional format, except that official mail from certain government entities also may use the simplified format. Saturation pieces for delivery on rural or highway contract routes or through general delivery or a post office box must have a complete delivery address or an alternative address format.

Density 1.7

High density and saturation rate mailings are subject to these density standards:

- a. There is no minimum volume per 5-digit ZIP Code delivery area. Pieces need not be sent to all carrier routes within a 5-digit delivery area.
- b. For the high density rate, at least 125 pieces must be prepared for each carrier route for which that discount is claimed, except that fewer pieces may be prepared and the high density rate may be claimed for carrier routes of 124 or fewer possible deliveries if a piece is addressed to every possible delivery on the route. Multiple pieces per delivery address can count toward this density standard.
- c. For the saturation rate, pieces must be addressed either to 90% or more of the active residential addresses or to 75% or more of the total number of active possible delivery addresses, whichever is less, on each carrier route receiving this mail, except that mail addressed in the simplified address format must meet the 100% coverage standard in A040. Multiple pieces per delivery address do not count toward this delivery standard. Sacks with fewer than 125 pieces and less than 15 pounds of pieces may be prepared to a carrier route when the saturation rate is claimed for the contents and the applicable density standard is met.

2.0 RATES

Basic Rates 2.1

Basic (nonautomation) carrier route rates apply to each piece that is sorted under M045, M620, or M920, M930, or M940 into the corresponding qualifying groups:

- a. Letter-size pieces in a full carrier route tray or in a carrier route package of 10 or more pieces placed in a 5-digit carrier routes or 3-digit carrier routes tray.
- b. Flat-size pieces in a carrier route package of 10 or more pieces palletized under M045, M920, M930, or M940; or placed in a carrier route sack containing at least 125 pieces or 15 pounds of pieces; or placed in a merged 5-digit scheme, 5-digit scheme carrier routes, merged 5-digit, or 5-digit carrier routes sack under M920.
- c. Irregular parcels (merchandise samples prepared with detached address labels under A060) in a carrier route sack or in a carrier route carton(s) containing a total of 125 pieces or 15 pounds of pieces or in a 5-digit carrier routes sack or carton. (DALs must be in carrier route packages of 10 or more pieces and prepared under A060.)

High Density and Saturation

also meet the applicable addressing and density standards in 1.6 and 1.7.

Residual Shape (Parcel) Surcharge

Enhanced Carrier Route mail that is prepared as a parcel or is not letter-size or flat-size as defined in C050 is subject to the residual shape surcharge.

High density and saturation rates apply to pieces qualified for the basic rates that

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